

Environmental Sustainability Committee Meeting

October 7th, 2015, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Green Acres Community Center, GA in Room 110

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order and welcome

Meeting called to order by Chairman Tim Killian at 7:00 p.m. Attendance is listed below.

Type	Name	Attendance
Member	Jon Buttram	Present
Member	Susan Crate	Present
Member	Judy Fraser	Present
Member, Chair	Timothy Killian	Present
Member	Bruce Knight	Present
Staff	Stefanie Kupka	Present
Staff	Brooke Hardin, Director of Community Development and Planning	Present
Guest	Betsy Bicknell	Present
Guest	Frank Linton	Present

2. Zoning Ordinance Rewrite

Special guest Brooke Hardin, Director of Community Development and Planning, presented an update on the status of the zoning ordinance rewrite and highlighted areas of the code that were relevant to the ESC. The following questions/comments were made:

- **Betsy:** Recommended that the City look into residential areas that allow commercial uses, such as Whitehead. She questioned why those areas allowed that type of use, versus other uses, such as an Art Gallery.
- **Judy:** Recommended that the code be revised to allow homeowners to locate chicken coups adjacent to their homes (versus requiring them to be located 25 feet away).
- **Betsy/Judy:** Raised concerns that by allowing reduced yard requirements, extensions and houses would creep closer to other lots. Judy questioned if the consultant has provided modeling for the new requirements and standards.
- **Bruce:** Questioned why impervious coverage maximum was increased from 50 to 60. Recommended that the City should look into how other jurisdictions have handled this (such as Arlington).
- **Bruce:** Recommended that low impact design should be a requirement in parking lot landscaping.
- **Frank:** Noted that some bus stops have, literally, no pedestrian access. Pedestrians must walk on some organization's lawn (sometimes sloping), or their flower beds, or step into the street. For examples see across the street from Denny's on 29/50, or near the Chipotle on Rt. 29 near Rt 50, or on the south side of Lanier School. The zoning regulations should address this issue.

- **Judy:** Questioned what happened to definitions for open space, recreational space, etc. Recommended that definitions should be clear in the ordinance.
- **Jon:** Recommended providing incentives for developers to install green roofs.

3. Development Review Process

The ESC discussed lessons learned on the development review process. The ESC decided to stay with the original process, with the exception of sending comments and questions directly to the applicant.

4. Fall Festival Planning

The ESC discussed logistics for the ESC booth at the Fall Festival.

5. Work Session with Mayor and City Council

Judy submitted a summary of the ESC guest speakers series to all ESC members for their review.

6. Annual Report Preparation

Tim will begin drafting the annual report and requested assistance from all ESC members.

7. Lanier Eco Club Projects

Tim will be reaching out to Lanier middle school teachers to get an update on their sustainability projects and activities.

8. Chairperson's items

Tim gave an update on the revised regulations on above ground storage tanks. Tim recommends discussing that topic in further detail at an upcoming meeting. He also recommended coordinating a tour of the tank farm.

9. Committee items

Jon noted that schools are scoring well on ACTs and that scores have increased. All schools are interested in Eco activities and clubs. The Fairfax HS Green Club is interested in presenting ideas to the school board.

10. Staff items

Stefanie noted that the Parks and Recreation Department is interested in organizing an Earth Day Program. The ESC is interested in learning more. Stefanie will invite Julie Miles to the next ESC meeting to discuss.

11. Public comments

Betsy noted that a new park is being developed on the corner of Arlington Blvd and Pickett Rd. She also recommends that the ESC look into the Breezeway land use project.

12. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. Next regular ESC meeting is November 4, 2015 @ 7 p.m.

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